

The Washington *Union* of the 1st inst., in an article entitled "The South and the Slave Trade," remarks, with a great deal of justice and force, that the landing by stealth of a single vessel on the coast of Georgia, laden with a few scores of these miserable wretches, has little other practical effect than to test the vitality of the laws which prohibit the traffic. The blacks may be spirited away into the interior, and southern citizens may borrow from northern abolitionists, in an "underground railroad," a convenient expedient for hiding their transaction from the honest gaze of an upright and law-abiding community; but the number of blacks thus scattered furtively through the land is too small to make any impression upon the face of southern society and upon the current of southern industry flowing smoothly in its accustomed channels. The isolated occurrence of such an event can serve only to induce an abstract discussion of the policy of reopening this traffic, and, what is more important, to test the fidelity of the southern people to the constitution and laws which they have invoked with so much eloquence and pertinacity against the fanatics of the North, who have enacted local laws, and set up a "Higher Law," in justification of their own infidelity to them.